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“With much shouting and commotion, a band of young braves, gay as paint, feathers, beads, and buckskin could make them, urged their ponies into the water with an ostentatious air of taking whatever risk there might be in testing its depth. After them sedately jogged the older men, naked or half-naked as suited their comfort or convenience. Behind these splashed an unregulated, undignified company that was a herd or a mob, as one noticed the ponies or their riders. There seemed an endless number of frowsy little steeds, carrying frivolous, giggling young squaws in ventilated petticoats of bark or buckskin fringe, with bare backs, and bosoms veiled with countless strands of beads ; carrying anxious and vociferous mothers and grandmothers, draped in any rag the girls disdained ; carrying panniers of babies, panniers of puppies, tent poles, tents, children, baskets of plums, bundles of clothes and utensils, anything, everything, that a camp could need or be encumbered with. Behind the unkempt, conceited ponies swam the dogs, excitedly barking their loudest to swell the clamor of the children, who had pressed them into service as beasts of burden, and were yelling lustily as pack after pack of juvenile belongings was submerged.”

W. W. N.

APLECH DE RONDAYES MALLORQUINES d'en Jordi des Reco. ANTONI M. A. ALCOVER pre. Palma : ed. J. J. B. Palou. Vol. i. 1896. Pp. xvi, 302. Vol. ii. 1897. Pp. 319.

This important and interesting collection of Majorcan folk-tales includes about forty tales, given in dialect, according to the narration of a particular narrator, and obtained from a single district. The stories are thoroughly popular, and their fulness and vivacity indicate the abundance of the material ; but we are told that in Majorca, also, these narratives are dying out. The stories belong to the category of *Märchen*, and of course are for the most part variants of those belonging to the European stock. As an example may be noted a version of the familiar history of the suitor who is obliged to show his fitness by certain tests, in the accomplishment of which he is assisted by his mistress, with whom he afterwards escapes, and is pursued by his demonic host ; the title is *Es castell d'irás y no tornarás*, “The castle of thou shalt go and not return.” The stories are often closed with the formula : “And if they are not dead they are living still,” to which is sometimes appended a pious wish for the reunion in heaven of the reciter and the hearers. That a similar view in regard to the connection of folklore and piety is entertained by the collector may be inferred from his dedication : “To the honor and glory of Our Lord Jesus Christ and his mother, the most pure and holy virgin Mary, of the saints of Majorca, the glorious martyr the blessed Ramon Lull, the glorious virgin the blessed Catalina Tomás, and the glorious confessor saint Alonso Rodriguez.” The book will make a valuable and necessary addition to libraries which undertake to bring together the most important collections of Romance folklore.

W. W. N.